

Federal grazing land

The amount of grazing area on federal lands is estimated in Table 6.1. The primary providers of grazing on federal lands are the BLM and USFS. Estimated of grazing on Other Public lands exist, but information on the extent is use is not available. Other Mitchell describes USFS lands in the following manner. The "... area of land on National Forests System lands is the area in either upland or riparian grazing allotments having range vegetation." This definition typically includes all land within allotments, not just those that are grazed. Therefore, it likely is an overestimate of area grazed on USFS lands.

BLM describes actual area grazed as lands within grazing districts managed according to the Taylor Grazing Act of 1934 (Section 3 lands) as well as lands outside grazing districts (Section 15 lands) that are typically associated with grazing leases. As is the case with USFS allotments, sections of these grazing districts may not actually be used, leading to an overestimation of land actually grazed. Table 6.1 indicates grazing area on federal lands delineated by BLM and USFS categories. These represent an inclusion of the total area shown by ERS in Table 6.

Table 6.1. Area managed for grazing on USFS and BLM in California

Public ownership group	Acres (thousands)
BLM	
Grazing districts	1,725
Other public land	7,380
USFS	
Upland allotment	7,121
Riparian allotment	<500

Source: Mitchell, 2000